



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 8, 2007

*Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona*

For Information Contact Public Affairs
WYN HORNBUCKLE
Telephone: (602) 514-7625
Cell: (602) 525-2681

TUCSON MAN SENTENCED TO 30 MONTHS FOR STEALING U.S. MILITARY AIRCRAFT EQUIPMENT FROM THE AEROSPACE MAINTENANCE AND REGENERATION CENTER

TUCSON – Christopher Howard, 34, of Tucson, Ariz. was sentenced Wednesday to 30 months in prison, by U.S. District Judge Frank R. Zapata. Christopher Howard had pleaded guilty on September 28, 2006, to Theft of Government Property.

On June 15, 2006, Agents from the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the United States Air Force Office of Investigative Services received information that a Naval Aircraft Inertial Navigation System had been stolen from the Aerospace Maintenance And Regeneration Center (AMARC) located in Tucson. Quickly following leads, the agents were able to locate Christopher Howard and recover the inertial navigation system before it was sold to potential buyers.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the United States Air Force Office of Special Investigations, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, with the cooperative efforts and support of the AMARC staff and management. The prosecution is being handled by David P. Petermann, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson.

AMARC is a modern, high-tech industrial facility providing a broad range of aircraft and aerospace vehicle support services to the U.S. government and foreign allies. In addition to its traditional storage, preservation and disposal missions, the Center annually reclaims millions of dollars worth of valuable spare parts, performs aircraft-overhauls on operational aircraft, and restores aircraft to flight capability.

CASE NUMBER: CR-06-1243-TUC-FRZ
RELEASE NUMBER: 2007-038(Howard)

###